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THE  
FATHER OF THE AMERICAN NAVY

BY

GEORGE W. BAIRD

REAR ADMIRAL UNITED STATES NAVY (RETIRED)

PAST GRAND MASTER OF FREEMASONS  
PAST PRESIDENT SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
PAST COMMANDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION (D. C. SOCIETY)

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## FATHER OF THE AMERICAN NAVY.

(BY REAR ADMIRAL G. W. BAIRD, U.S.N., PAST GRAND MASTER  
OF FREEMASONS, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.)

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The Original, Colonial, Navy which existed during the time of the Colonies, was dismantled, crews discharged and officers mustered out, at the termination of the Revolutionary war, for want of money to continue it. Only one officer (John Paul Jones) was continued in the Government employ, as American Commissioner at L'Orient, France, to settle the very complicated tangle of ownership, prize claims, etc., as some of the ships were letter-of-marque, some privateers and some men of war, but nearly all had mixed American and French crews. These vessels had won about 80 per cent of their battles, and there were as many as 74,000 men in them. Washington's Army never numbered more than 20,000 at one time. In the original Colonial Navy there were 42 Captains, of whom the senior was Esek Hopkins of Rhode Island, who was appointed Commander in Chief, with rank equal to that of General Washington. He was the brother of Stephen Hopkins, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and native born. His admirers speak of him as Father of the American Navy, and though there is a distinction between the Colonial Navy and the U. S. Navy they were equally American. Columbus is credited with the Discovery of America, though he never saw the continent, but did discover the Bahamas and Antilles, and thus blazed the way for the following discoverers. But, in the Naval Service, we have held that Congress was the Father of the Navy, and not any individual. The first Regulations for the Navy were prepared by John Paul Jones, when a first lieutenant. His youth, evidently, prevented his appointment as Captain at once. But his success as a fighter and his general superiority, mentally, diplomatically, personally, won his promotion to Captain very soon. And his admirers call him the Father of the American Navy. It has been generally conceded that the victories of John Paul Jones,

right at the ports of the enemy, and against such odds, have much to do with the early recognition of the Republic. We cannot discover that any British Historian, nor foreign reports, have noticed any of our Naval Commanders except John Paul Jones and Abraham Whipple. The prowess of the British Navy, at that time, was considered to be invincible: no war vessel dared fight a British ship on anything like equal terms. So it was a surprise that Captain Jones should bring a fight right up to their ports, in inferior vessels, and against regularly built Men of War, and twice was victor.

Ezekiel Hopkins, a well bred man as well as a skillful seaman, was the first of the Colonial Captains to put to sea. From the records of the Navy Department it is shown that the *Hornet* and the *Wasp* sailed from Baltimore, November, 1775, to join the fleet of Captain Hopkins in the Delaware. This squadron sailed from the Delaware, February 17th, 1775 (see Cooper and other Naval Historians and biographers of Barry, Frost, Peterson and the Portfolio for July, 1813. In the edition of 1826 Cooper says the *Lexington* was the first to get to sea but he corrects this statement in all later editions of his Naval Histories). The first armed vessels captured by the Colonial Navy were the *Hawk*, 6 guns, and the *Bomb Brig, Bolton* of 8 guns, captured by Hopkins' Squadron, April 4 and 6, 1776. The *Edward*, 6 guns, was taken by Captain Barry on the 7th of April, 1776 (Navy Department Records).

The allegations on Page 8 of Martin Griffin's "Story of Barry" is not confirmed by the Navy Department Records. The official record says that "Richard Dale, lieutenant on a vessel of the Virginia Navy, captured by a Tender of the *Liverpool*, and put in a prison ship at Norfolk, then in possession of the British, persuaded by a former schoolmate, named Goodrich, took service in a Tender cruising in the Rappahannock in May, 1776. He was severely wounded in an engagement with pilot boats and while recovering decided to give up the British Service. He sailed with Goodrich for Bermuda. When returning Goodrich's vessel was captured by Captain Barry. Twenty-five of the officers and crew entered the service of the *Lexington*. Dale was appointed a Midshipman and remained on the ship until captured off the coast of France in 1777. He was imprisoned in England, escaped, reached L'Orient, was



ESECK HOPKINS, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE CONTINENTAL NAVY DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION FROM DECEMBER 22ND, 1775, TO JANUARY 2ND, 1778. BORN APRIL 25TH, 1718, DIED FEBRUARY 25TH, 1802.





appointed, by Captain John Paul Jones, first lieutenant of the *Bon Homme Richard* (see biographies of Dale, Frost and Petersen, and the Portfolio, June, 1814. Also biographies of Captain John Paul Jones).

It is certain that Captain Esek Hopkins was the first Captain appointed in the Navy, as well as the first commander-in-chief. Of his personal worth and gentility there is no question: that he made the first captures, at sea, there can be no further question. But let us not forget, embarrassing as it is, that the jealousies at that time, between the Colonies, were bitter and acrimonious.

“Wad some pou’r the giftie gie us  
To see ourseln as ither see us.”

Here is what was debated in the French Parliament, just after our war:

“Not only (said Mr. Joseph De Maestro) do I not believe in the stability of the American Government, but the peculiar establishments of English-Americans inspire me with no confidence. Their Cities, for example, animated by jealousy, hardly respectable, have not been able to agree on a place for the sessions of Congress: neither will cede the honor to the other. Consequently they have decided to build a new city which will be the seat of Government. They have chosen a place of advantage on the banks of the grand river: One stops! as the City is to be called Washington! The positions of the public buildings are marked on the map: they have put their hands to the work, and the plan of the queen-city is circulated in all Europe. Nevertheless there is too much deliberation, too much humanity in this affair, and one may bet a thousand to one that the city will never be built, or that it will never be called Washington or that Congress will not reside there.”

Our own records of the jealousies of that period have not been exploited, and silence has misled us. New England and the seaboard as far south as Virginia, supplied most of the 74,000 seamen of the Revolutionary period, while the counties inland and to the southward, supplied the soldiers for Washington’s Army. But the school histories of today record comparatively little on the side of the sailor. We are satisfied that the inter-colonial jealousies in Congress had much to do with the Naval ending of Esek Hopkins. He was summoned before the Continental Marine Committee, but did not appear as soon as they expected, and they suspended him.

From Paullin’s History of the Navy, p. 133, we quote, viz:

“During the incumbency of the Marine Committee, a number of interesting and important Naval trials were held. Captain Thomas Thompson in 1778,

and Captain Dudley Saltonstall in 1779, were broken by Courts martial. Other Captains who lost their vessels were tried but escaped so severe a punishment. The cases growing out of Captain Hopkin's expedition to New Providence, his engagement with the Glasgow, and the immediately succeeding events of his fleet in the spring of 1776 deserve more extended notice. During the summer of 1776, the Marine Committee ordered Commodore Hopkins and Captains Saltonstall, and Abraham Whipple to leave the fleet, which was then stationed in Rhode Island, and to come to Philadelphia for trial. After calling before it the inferior officers of the *Alfred* and *Columbus* and hearing their complaints against the two Captains, the committee reported to Congress on July 11, that the charges against Saltonstall were not well founded and that the charge against Whipple "amounts to nothing more than a rough, indelicate mode of behavior to his Marine Officers."

And on p. 109 we find:

"Journals of Continental Congress, December 30, 1777. The occasion of this grant of power by Congress was a letter complaining of 'disrespect and illtreatment' which a member of the Naval Board of the Middle Department had received at the hands of John Barry, commander of the Frigate *Effingham*."

Hopkins accepted service in the Army then, and remained to the end of the War. There was no court of appeals at that time, nor even a revising power. It has been believed by many that jealousy, more than anything else, moved that committee. But the people of Rhode Island erected a very beautiful statue of the memory of Captain Hopkins but, modestly, refrained from labeling it Father of the Navy. After peace was declared, and, from that time until the constitution was framed, conditions were very bad. Jealousies multiplied. They seemed to agree on one thing, that some rule was better than no rule, and it was even suggested that a young Prince be invited from the Mother Country. The Army and the Navy were disbanded. The officers and crews sought a livelihood where there was an opening. John Paul Jones remained at L'Oriente, without salary, but, for a brief period served the Russian Government and received a salary, but resumed his duty at L'Oriente. It is worthy of note that while Captain Jones died penniless, and was buried by charity, the Government owed him \$60,000, which was subsequently paid his heirs. Captain Abe Whipple had joined the Ohio Company, and he ended his days in Ohio.

We had agreed with the French, to protect their interests in the West Indies, *in consideration for what they had done for us in*

*the Revolutionary War*, but, for want of money we failed. So the Enterprising French, with a consciousness of equity and justice, fell upon our commerce, at sea, very much like Raphael Semmes did during the Civil War, and proceeded to pay themselves from the cargoes. This continued until the destruction of our commerce (our largest asset) seemed imperilled. Finally the President sent three Commissioners to Paris, to beg the French Government to desist, but they were implacable. Finally our commissioner (Mr. Pinkney of S. C.) rose in his wrath and said "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute."

Our Merchant Ships were then armed, and put up a successful fight. The *Old Constitution* was sent to sea, under Captain Truxton, and her fight with the French frigate *Vengeance*, ended that war. The French spoliation claims, which followed, and we have paid, amounted to more than \$15,000,000, *for what the French did for us in the Revolution*. A year later, 1794, the Navy of the United States was determined on.

The old Captains were scattered: some had more lucrative employment, some were dead; some were unfit for service. In June, 1794, six captains were appointed, viz: John Barry, Samuel Nicholson, Silas Talbot, Joshua Barney, Richard Dale and Thomas Truxton. It has been claimed that they were commissioned in the order of merit. The name of John Paul Jones is not in the list, and for the good reason that John Paul Jones had been dead two years. Let us consider some of the things in which Captain Jones was first. He was the first to aid the Continental Congress in Creating the Navy, and he was the first officer to receive a commission, the first in command of a war vessel, the first to raise the American Flag on board a war vessel (The *Alfred*), with those who were the first with the flag, at sea, and in at the first British War Vessel striking her colors, to an American vessel, the first and only officer named in Act of Congress creating the new flag—Stars and Stripes—first to run up the Stars and Stripes on board a war vessel (The *Ranger*). First to carry the flag across the sea. First to propose for and to receive a salute to the Stars and Stripes from a foreign Nation (France) and, therein the first to receive recognition for the New Nation, the United States. The first to make a British War Vessel strike her colors (the *Drake*). The

first and only American Naval Officer to receive a vote of thanks from the Continental Congress and from that Congress the command of its greatest ship of war, the *America*. He never lost a battle nor did he lose a ship.

### JOHN PAUL JONES.

Of whom the Nation's Board of Admiralty said, and the Continental Congress printed in 1781 :

“He hath made the flag of the United States respected among the flags of other Nations.”

His work of untangling the prize cases at L'Orient required judicial and diplomatic tact, and an intimate knowledge of the French language. Captain Jones never served on board a Letter-of-Marque nor a Privateer, but only in commissioned men-of-war. He was a creditable officer, at home in the best society and a welcome guest at the French Court. At an Imperial Reception the wife of our Minister remarked on the fine dressing and perfect manners of Captain Jones. His ideals were high; his example good. His advice to the Marine Committee in 1776, and which appears on his monument in Washington, is still held up to the Midshipmen :

“It is by no means enough that an officer of the Navy should be a capable-mariner. He should be that, of course, and also a great deal more. He should be, as well, a gentleman of liberal education, refined manner, punctilious courtesy and the nicest sense of personal honor. He should not only be able to express himself clearly and with force, in his own language, with tongue and pen, but should be versed in French and Spanish.

“He should be the soul of tact, patience, justice, firmness and charity. No meritorious act of a subordinate should escape his attention nor be left to pass without its reward; if even the reward be only a word of approval. Conversely he should not be blind to a single fault of a subordinate though, at the same time, he should be quick and unflinching to distinguish error from malice, thoughtlessness from incompetency and well meant shortcoming from heedless or stupid blunder. As he should be universal and impartial in his reward and approval of merit so should he be judicial and unbending in his punishment or reproof of misconduct.”

John Paul Jones was a member of *Neuf Soers* Lodge of Freemasons, the Paris Lodge of which Benjamin Franklin, Houdon, Helvetius, Heli DuMont, Arouet de Voltaire and other great men of that day were members, and they were his associates. He was





BRONZE STATUE OF LAFAYETTE IN LAFAYETTE SQUARE IN  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

but 45 years of age when he died. His death was caused by nephritis and pulmonary trouble. He was buried in the protestant cemetery, at Paris, and, after 125 years, exhumed at the personal expense of our Ambassador, Gen. Horace Porter, who was, also, the President-General of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

After complete identification the body was brought to the United States in a battleship commanded by Captain C. D. Sigsbee.

Gen. Porter and President Roosevelt were earnest members of the S. A. R. and it was the President's wish that the body of Jones be placed in the crypt of the Chapel, at the Naval Academy, much as Napoleon was interred in the crypt of the Hotel *des Invalides* at Paris. The obsequies were held in Bancroft Hall, at the Academy, on the 24th of April, 1906. The President, Secretary of the Navy, Ambassador Porter, the French Ambassador, Governor of Maryland *et al*, were the speakers that day. Congress appropriated \$75,000 to finish the Chapel and prepare the crypt and sarcophagus, and, at the President's request, a Bill was introduced in Congress to appropriate \$35,000 to reimburse Gen. Porter for his expenditures in recovering the body, but Gen. Porter refused to take it and the Bill was dropped. Porter asked that the \$35,000 be added to the appropriation for the crypt, to make it handsomer. At the request of the President, Senator Lodge introduced a Bill asking \$50,000 to erect, in Washington, a Statue of John Paul Jones. There are many "hero" monuments now in Washington, which look as if we were a war-like people, while we believe we are the most peaceable. The most beautiful group statue is that of La Fayette, in La Fayette Square.

It was authorized by Congress in 1885, built in Paris, and unveiled without ceremony in 1891. Archbishop John Ireland, struck by the beauty of the statue, and memorializing the service of a foreigner felt a twinge of jealousy, natural and pardonable jealousy.

\* "I charge you, sons of Saint Patrick to see to it that in Washington City near the monuments of LaFayette and Rochambeau, there be erected a Monument to some Irish Soldier to commemorate the part Ireland took in the Revolutionary War."

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\* Vide The National Hibernian of July, 1902. The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick were, originally, and now nominally a non-sectarian society. Its original purpose was to assist Irish immigration. Its origin dates to March 17th, 1771.

He made an address to the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, in New York, at their banquet to the "French Delegates" in which he said :

There is no evidence that the Friendly Sons take any obligation. The Hibernian Society which existed in the early part of the last century, was also a benevolent society, and belonged in the United States, and must not be confused with the Ancient Order of Hibernia, which is international, sectarian and political.

Bishop Ireland "charged" the Friendly Sons to find "some Irish soldier, to commemorate, which they were evidently unable to do.

At the 1902 Meet of the Ancient Order of Hibernia, Mr. Donlevy was chairman and said "The roll of honor in the war of the Revolution shows such names as General Moylan; General Sullivan who led the retreat succesfully across Long Island and in whose honor today the National Congress is contemplating a memorial in New Hampshire. We are proud and glad to have you men and women of the East in this capital city of our commonwealth in the queen city of the plains; proud and glad because it shows to all the people of the State the character of the citizenship that makes up the A. O. H."

General Stephen Moylan was the First President of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. In the war of the Revolution he served a short time as a commissary, and then as colonel on the staff of the Pennsylvania Cavalry and spent the winter at Valley Forge. He seems to have been a successful business man, but had not much military record. Gen. John Sullivan was born in New Hampshire and was the first Grand Master of Masons in that State; a Congregationalist; buried in the Congregational Cemetery near Portsmouth. It does not appear why neither of these SOLDIERS were chosen, but it does appear, in the proceedings of that "Meet," that Captain Barry was favored.

Mr. Martin Griffin, editor for the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, then wrote "The Story of Commodore John Barry" which was published in Philadelphia in 1908. He makes Captain Barry a Commodore, though that rank was not created until 1862, 59 years after the death of Captain Barry. Mr. Griffin bases his claim of Barry's being Father of the American Navy on his first commission when the Navy was rehabilitated in 1794, and goes so far as to call him father and founder, but, we contend, the original





ROCHAMBEAU, A BRONZE STATUE IN LAFAYETTE SQUARE, WASHINGTON.



Colonial Navy was as much *American* as the present Navy. In the Colonial Navy Captain Hopkins held the rank of Commander-in-Chief, which Mr. Griffin claims for Captain Barry, viz: "page 71." So the County Wexford Irish Catholic Boy had become the commander-in-chief of the new Navy of the new constitutional United States appointed by Washington, "the Father of his Country," Barry had become "Father of the American Navy."

At the Denver Meet one of the speakers said "we are in hearty accord with the sentiment of St. Paul's great Prelate, Archbishop Ireland, at the banquet lately given by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick to the French Delegates when he said, 'I charge you, Sons of St. Patrick, to see to it that in Washington near the monuments of La Fayette and Rochambeau there be erected some Irish Soldier to commemorate the part Ireland took in the Revolutionary War.' We name, as an Irish Soldier of the Revolutionary War worthy of the honor Captain Jack Barry, the father of the American Navy, and pledge our support to the movement \* \* \*" Barry was not a soldier. It is apparent they had exhausted their "roll of honor" without finding a soldier, the peer of La Fayette or of Rochambeau.

Mr. Griffin seems to have been the first and only Historian of Captain Barry, though biographers had recorded him, but by no means in such glowing adjectives.

A Bill asking Congress for \$50,000 for a monument to commemorate Captain Barry, was introduced by Mr. Driscoll, on December 4, 1905, and is numbered H. R. 353. It asks for the erection in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, a monument to the memory of Commodore John Barry on which shall be inscribed

Erected to the memory of  
JOHN BARRY  
Father of the American Navy.

Had the Bill been passed in this shape it would, clearly, have been a declaration of Congress that "Commodore" Barry was the father of the Navy. But the Act, which passed on February 2, 1906, appropriating the money, *deleted the words Father of the American*

*Navy*, which was a decision. The report on this Bill (Public No. 206) and the report (Public No. 208) on the Paul Jones Bill were made the same day, and the two Bills passed the same day.

#### ANOTHER RICHMOND IN THE FIELD.

The following (A.P.) dispatch appeared in the Washington Post of December 25, 1907:

##### "NEW ENGLAND BACKS \$50,000, OF WILEY OF ALABAMA.

Boston, Massachusetts, December 24. Members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Massachusetts are earnestly working for the passage of a Bill introduced by Congressman Wiley of Alabama appropriating \$50,000 for a monument to Jeremiah O'Brien, an Irish-American Revolutionary War hero who, captured, in the first sea fight of the Revolution, the British schooner *Margarette*."

But it soon became known that Jeremiah O'Brien was not Irish at all, but born in Machias, Maine, and a charter member of Warren Lodge of Freemasons. He was a member of the Congregational church. The Bill was not pushed; it was not reported.

"They folded their tents like the Arabs, and silently stole away." The Contract for the Monument of John Paul Jones was given to the lowest bidder, Mr. Niehause, a German. The contract for the Barry Statue was given to Mr. Andrew O'Connor, an Irish Sculptor in Paris.

Mr. Niehause completed his work without delay or hindrance, showing Captain Jones in his uniform, sword in hand, with a handsome marble pylon for a background, which affords a good contrast. It was pronounced good. The only criticism was from a Scot who said "The Artist might have put a Scotch thistle or a heather on a corner."

A stranger visited me on the evening of January 22, 1908, and I entered in my diary every word I could remember. "He said his name was Frizzel, and a former proofreader in the Government Printing Office, and a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. That he had been to see Mr. A. Howard Clarke, Secretary-General of the S. A. R., and Commander Moore, president of the local society S. A. R., for the purpose of securing our co-operation in having the Statue of John Paul Jones placed on one side of the heroic sized Statue of Columbus, and John Barry



BRONZE STATUE OF CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY, IN FRANKLIN SQUARE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



placed on the other side. [The Columbus statue is of great size, and there is a niche on each side where the two smaller ones would fit.] I was surprised that Dr. Clark or Commander Moore should refer Mr. Frizzel\* to me, as I held no office in the Society of the S. A. R. at the time and had never been active in it. I concluded that they were getting rid of Mr. Frizzel, and avoiding a disagreeable matter. I told Mr. Frizzel I had no knowledge nor authority in the matter. When he asked me who introduced the Bill in Congress to appropriate \$50,000 for the statue of John Paul Jones (which I did not know at the time) I told him he could find out by inquiry at the Document Room. He said he had inquired there, and no copy of the Bill could be found. He said that the Bill for the Jones statue was introduced some months before that for the Barry statue, but they were reported and passed the same day. He volunteered the information that when the Ancient Order of Hibernians held their meeting in Denver the principal speaker was Archbishop Ireland who advised that it was up to them to discover some Irishman who was in the Navy during the Revolutionary war and to bring him forward; to ask Congress to appropriate a like sum for a statue for him, and that is how the appropriation for the Barry statue came about. He expressed the belief that the sum of \$50,000 would not be enough for the statue and pedestal, and that Burke Cochran said that he could easily raise \$50,000 in New York for a proper pedestal for the statue of John Barry. He said that in event of their failure to have the two statues (Jones and Barry) placed beside that of Columbus, he would like to have them placed together, as proper Naval Heroes of the Revolutionary War."

I could not sanction, by silence, any move of the Sons of the American Revolution, to declare Captain Barry was the peer of John Paul Jones, and, in the event of the S. A. R. opposing it I would have to stand the fire. Nor could I deceive (the *soi disant*) Mr. Frizzel by leading him to think I was apathetic or favorable. I knew of the niche on each side of the Columbus Statue, and, for the first time understood their purpose. So I assured Mr. Frizzel

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\* I discovered afterwards that this man's name is not Frizzel. Mr. Frizzel is older and is very different. The alleged Frizzel looks very much like a clerk I have often seen in the War Department, who attracted my attention by being a fast walker.

that as both Captain Jones and Captain Barry were patriots while Columbus was an adventurer, a kidnapper, slave driver, and had even been called a pirate, I did not think that either Captain Jones or Captain Barry should be placed near him. As to placing the statues of Captain Jones and Captain Barry together anywhere, I was equally opposed, as each was big enough to merit a separate site. I said I favored a memorial for each and every Captain in the Colonial Navy and for every signer of the Declaration of Independence, and added that there are, now, three of the Signers buried in a Philadelphia Church Yard, in unmarked graves.

Two years later I was elected President of the District of Columbia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and did what I could to prevent the placing of the Statues of Captain Jones and Captain Barry together. I visited the Secretary of War (who was one of the Commission), and stated my objection to placing the statues together, and he interrupted me by asking, "Who in hell was John Barry anyhow?" The columns of the National Hi-bernian do not show that Bishop Ireland was at the Denever Meet of 1902 (as the alleged Mr. Frizzell had claimed) but it does show that the Bishop made the admonition to a non-sectarian Society (the Friendly Sons) in New York, during their entertaining of the French Delegates who had come with the La Fayette monument. His admonition was for them to discover some Irish SOLDIER who was the peer of La Fayette or of Rochambeau, which gave me the impression that the alleged Mr. Frizzell had not been well posted.

The Statue of John Paul Jones was placed at the foot of Seventeenth Street, at the entrance to Potomac Park, in a fashionable driveway. It was dedicated on the 17th of April, 1912. The stops were broken by Admiral Dewey, the senior officer of the Navy. The principal address was made by Gen. Horace Porter, a General Officer in the Civil War; our Ambassador to France, at whose personal expense the body of John Paul Jones was discovered and completely identified, who was graduated with honor at West Point and who was a Diplomat of international reputation. His address was historic, patriotic and classic, but too long for reproduction here. President Roosevelt had inspired the appropriation for the memorial, and his successor, President Taft, said:





BRONZE PLAQUE ON BASE OF THE JOHN PAUL JONES MONUMENT.



"Ladies and Gentlemen, this monument preserves the memory of a Scotch Boy who transferred his allegiance from Scotland to the United States, mastered the science of Naval Strategy and furnished to our country the inspiration that has been felt for 130 years in the Navy, which is the pride of the Nation. He came to this country at the age of 12 as an apprenticed seaman. At the age of 19 he became the first mate, and at the age of 21, the master of a ship. In 1775, at the age of 28, he became a first lieutenant in the Navy of the United States. His career was no accident nor the result of fortuous circumstances. From a boy of 12 he gave his time to the study of his profession, and he made himself a sailor, a soldier, a commander, and a Diplomat. He mastered three languages, and after he had reached manhood made himself to know the ways of the men of the world, so that when he appeared at the Courts of Europe he honored the Country he represented.

"It is fortunate for the Navy of the United States that it has such a hero to furnish the spirit to those who now make up its membership. The battle in which he had to take the deck of his antagonist to win victory, as his own ship went down, will always stand out in the History of Naval warfare as the greatest example of victory won by the individual bravery and indomitable courage of a commander that has ever been known to the world. And now the Navy of this Country has become so important a part of the Government, so essential to the maintainance of this country of its position before the world, it is fit that here, 133 years after the battle, a monument should be erected to its victor, dignified and beautiful as this one is, in the capital of the country that bears the name of the President who gave to this Hero the title of admiral.

"I cannot say what I have to say without rendering a just tribute to the Soldier, Statesman and Diplomat, who, by appreciating the place in American History that John Paul Jones ought to occupy, devoted his time, his energy and his treasure to bring the bones of this great Naval Hero to rest at Annapolis, and to inspiring the movement that erected the memorial of today."

The model of the statue for Captain Barry, which was made by Mr. O'Connor, was placed in the attic of the State, War and Navy Building for observation and consideration. It showed Captain Barry in his uniform, sword in hand, standing on a high pedestal, and, I thought it beautiful. It was inclosed in what might be called a semicircular frieze on the panels of which was a series of *bas relief* figures, immigrants, half nude, showing the miseries of suffering Ireland from the time of Klontarf to the potato famine of 1848. Mr. Driscoll, the member of Congress who had introduced the Bill asking the appropriation, happened to be there, and expressed disappointment. He thought the *bas reliefs* entirely superfluous, which surprised me, as I thought they filled the purposes sought. A Committee of the Ancient Order of Hibernians visited the President and stated their objection to the O'Connor Model, but, it seems, the commissioners as well as the Arts Com-

mission had passed on and had accepted the Model, which was necessary to complete the contract. They had understood it as I had. Mr. Driscoll carried the matter to Congress, determined to have the contract revoked, which he finally succeeded in doing, and in having it awarded to Mr. Boyle, another Irish sculptor. From the columns of the National Hibernian of February 16th, 1910, I copy part of the speech of Mr. Driscoll which the Hibernian calls "masterly speech."

"Now what kind of a model was approved by the commissioners of Fine Arts which was called in to advise the legally constituted commission? First it represented a fountain with a pool of water around it with a long frieze of bold relief figures, starting in with the history of Ireland, when the people were naked or clothed in skins. It undertook to represent various events and misfortunes in the history of the Irish people from the baptism of the King of Tarn by Saint Patrick down to the present time—Brian Boru at the battle of Clontarf, the landing of Strongbow in Ireland; the driving of the native people towards the west, their misfortunes and their miseries: and, finally it represented the various Irish immigrants, men and women, landing at Castle Garden absolutely nude" (laughter).

This is about one tenth part of the speech, but enough to describe the model of Mr. O'Connor. The model of Mr. Boyle, however, was satisfactory to the commission and to the Art Commission, and is, beyond question, one of the handsomest statues in the city. It is bronze, as is, also, that of Captain Jones, but it is on a high pedestal, standing, sword in hand, in the uniform of a Captain of that day, graceful, attractive. Unfortunately it is too near the pavement and its background is a tree. On the front of the granite pedestal is the figure of a woman, beautiful, holding in her hand a tre-foil, a *fleur de lis*, the emblem of the House of the Bourbons. The newspapers called the figure Victory, but as Victory is always represented with wings, the figure may have been intended for the Maid of Erin. The Barry statue was unveiled on the 16th day of May, 1916. It is on the west side of Franklin Square, facing 14th Street. The Marine Band, a battalion of Midshipmen from the Academy, Uniformed seamen, Military Cadets, Coast Artillerymen, Sons of the American Revolution, Field Artillery, Spanish War Veterans, Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick and Ancient Order of Hibernians made the procession. President Woodrow Wilson made a short address, followed by Secretary of the Navy, and an original poem was read by Mr. Reagan. The





BRONZE STATUE OF CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES IN POTOMAC PARK,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

invocation was given by Bishop Harding (Episcopal) and the benediction by Mgr. Russell. In nearly all the addresses Captain Barry was referred to as commodore, and, in some, as Father of the American Navy, in spite of the fact that line had been cut from the text of the Bill which appropriated the money for this very monument.

But the enterprising Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick and the A. O. H., after losing their propaganda in Congress, got busy and erected a monument in front of the State House in Philadelphia, and on it are the words "COMMODORE JOHN BARRY, FATHER OF THE AMERICAN NAVY." Though Congress had wiped out the words "father of the American Navy" the phrase had taken hold of the people and seems to stick.

Though the history of the Nation shows that Captain John Paul Jones not only attacked two regularly built and equipped men-of-war, of the enemy, and which were of superior power, and near their own ports, capturing them, Mr. Patrick J. Haltigan (a typesetter in the Government Printing Office, also editor of the *National Hibernian*), gave to the Knights of Columbus, in Washington, on April 7th, 1907, the following, which we take from the *Post* of the 8th:

"The honor which is due Commodore Barry for his part in the Revolutionary War has been stolen from him by John Paul Jones, but the American public is rapidly seeing its mistake, and before very many more years have passed Barry will obtain his just dues. \* \* \* In his greatest victory Jones succeeded in capturing or sinking only one ship and for this he has received praises and honors untold. Barry was the first Commodore who commanded the first ship bearing the Continental flag, in more than one Naval engagement succeeded in capturing two of the enemy ships, a number that was never equalled by Jones \* \* \*"

History, the records of the Navy Department, show that Captain Barry captured two ships and lost two while Captain John Paul Jones' victories were over regular men-of-war and of superior power.

It may be worthy of note that Mr. Haltigan always respectfully referred to Captain Barry as Commodore, but to Captain Jones simply as "Jones." In the same lecture the paper quotes Mr. Haltigan as touching the active parts taken in the Revolutionary times by such men as Charles Carrol of Carrolton and John Carrol,

first Bishop of America; Charles Thompson, secretary of the Continental Congress; George Berkeley; Thomas Dongan; James Logan, secretary to William Penn; Commodore John Barry; Generals Montgomery, Maxwell, Wayne, Knox, Hand, Sullivan, Moylan and others." But he did not intimate that only a few of them were eligible to membership in the A. O. H. or the K. of C. A number of them were Freemasons, but we cannot pronounce their creed.

In all that has been uttered or written about Captain John Paul Jones we can find no word that intimates anything above his patriotism; it was not hyphenated with any other purpose. Patriotism comes from the Latin word *Patria* which means father and country, race or line of descent, signifying a native or inhabitant. No Societies have been active in promoting the memorial of Captain John Paul Jones. The Bill to appropriate the money for his memorial was induced by the President of the United States, and introduced in the Senate by Senator H. Cabot Lodge, both members of the Sons of the American Revolution, but without any act or connivance of the Society. It is exclusively a patriotic and historic Society, and non-sectarian, as any patriotic Society must be.

The *bona fide* patriotic societies in the United States are:

The Order of the Cincinnati,  
The Loyal Legion,  
The Grand Army of the Republic,  
The Sons of the American Revolution,  
The Sons of the Revolution,  
The Daughters of the American Revolution,  
The Founders and Patriots,  
The Sons of the Colonial Wars,  
The Colonial Dames,  
The Legion.

There are many patriotic individuals in any or in all other Societies but unless their fealty is first, last and always to *Patria* they are not *bona fide* distinctively patriotic. There are grand and good organizations, such as Freemasons, Odd Fellows, Red Men, Elks, Woodmen, etc., which do fraternal and benevolent work, but they are not classed as patriotic. Any international organization, with a head in any one country is not in the class of patriotic Societies.



The Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick were organized on the 17th day of March, 1771, 24 regular members present, non-sectarian (a majority were protestants) and the purpose of the society was to assist immigrants.

The following is from History of the Hibernian Society (Campbell), p. 149 :

The Hibernian Society for the relief of emigrants from Ireland was founded on March 3, 1790. The *Pennsylvania Packet or Daily Advertiser* of the next day said: "At a select meeting of Irishmen, summoned to take into consideration the formation of a Society for the protection and relief of Irish emigrants."

It was non-sectarian, and among the officers are the names of many protestants. So this Society must not be confused with the Ancient Order of Hibernians, which had existed for many years in Great Britain, which figured in the Irish Rebellion of 1798, and which has figured in the history of the Barry Statue. In Musgrave's History of the Irish Rebellion, page 36 (appendix), the oath of the members of the Order is recorded, viz :

"I do solemnly swear by our Lord Jesus Christ who suffered for us on the Cross, and by the Blessed Virgin Mary, that I will burn, destroy and murder all heretics, up to my knees in blood. So help me God."

In 1835 before a Government inquiry (see report of Select Committee on the State of Ireland, page 288) this organization was found to take this oath :

"I swear that I will never pity the moans or groans of the dying, from the cradle to the crutch, and that I will wade knee deep in Orange blood."

In 1871 the Crown Solicitor of Ireland produced before the "Select Committee" the following oath to the members of the same Society :

\* "And I further swear to owe no allegiance to any Protestant or heretic sovereign, ruler, prince or potentate and that I will not regard any oath delivered to me by them or their subjects, be they Judge, Magistrate or else, as binding."

The first census of the United States was taken a year after the inauguration of General Washington, *i. e.*, 1790. The population

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\* These obligations were from Parliamentary reports, and recorded in the American Citizen of October 28th, 1907.

had probably not changed any since the close of the war. That census shows only the White people. The Indians and Negroes were not included. It shows that 97.7% of them were British of whom

86.3% were English and  
7.5% Scotch.  
1.0% Dutch.  
0.5% French.  
0.4% German.  
3.9% Irish.  
0.4% All others.

Most of the French were Huguenot, and probably a majority of the Irish were from the Province of Ulster. Of the signers of the Declaration of Independence three (Thornton, Smith and Taylor) were (Ulster) Irish; three were English; two were Scotch; but all the rest were natives. Fifty-three were Protestants, and one a Roman Catholic. Nine of them were known to be Freemasons, but it is believed there were more. Among them were Lawyers, Merchants, Physicians, Farmers, Soldiers, one Shoemaker, and a Printer. There are three of these great men in unmarked graves in a church yard in Philadelphia.







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